

Remarks made to the legislator

February 27, 2012

Hi my name is Sarah Carmany. I'm the Public Policy coordinator of the Regional Interagency Consumers Committee or RICC. I think that the following bills which are senate bills numbers 414, 415, and 981 should be passed in hopes of altering it in the future. I'm a young woman who was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome. Having insurance coverage until age eighteen is not right, because many adults don't have a lot of money to pay for these services out of pocket. These services are extremely expensive. I like so many other people can't afford it. It's just too costly. What about the people that are in need of things to support their Autistic child and/or themselves? What are they going to do? Go without so that it would be harder for them to do things: like communicate, make friends, or just live? I know

that with me I have to go for therapy for controlling my anger. How do you think that I'm able to pay for this? I can't do this out of pocket. Anger management is very expensive, more money than I have. If insurance isn't going to pay then I'll have to drop out just because I'm unable to pay. What about people that need other things like the dyne boxes for communicating, or someone who needs a wheelchair? These things are expensive. We as a community sure hope that the Senate bill number 981 goes through and is made for everyone, and is not limited to kids only.

Another thing , why autism? Why is this happening to just autism only? That is just not right. All the stuff that any disabled or elderly person needs is extremely expensive.

What we as a community want the legislators here in Michigan to do is to come up with a bill that

will insure everyone. Not just children but for everyone, so that the supports that they need will be more affordable. It will be easier on them and their families to purchase them, and will also help them to get the right treatment that they deserve.

Thank you

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